

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CGEN, UR, US

SUBJECT: KIEV AND NEW YORK CONSULAR DISTRICTS

REF: A) MOSCOW 3123, B) STATE 46666

1. SOVIET EMBASSY COUNSELOR MYSHKOV ON MARCH 11 HANDED SOV DIRECTOR DRAFT NOTE ON ESTABLISHMENT OF KIEV AND NEW YORK CONSULAR DISTRICTS. DRAFT REITERATES SOVIET POSITION THAT U.S. DISTRICT WILL BE UKRANIAN SSR AND SOVIET'S WILL CONSIST OF NEW YORK, NEW JERSEY, CONNECTICUT, MASSACHUSETTS, PENNSYLVANIA, MAINE, VERMONT, NEW HAMPSHIRE, RHODE ISLAND, AND OHIO. MYSHKOV SAID HE HAD CHECKED WITH MOSCOW AND COULD CONFIDENTIAL

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ASSURE US THAT UNOFFICIAL TRAVEL BY CONGEN KIEV PERSONNEL

OUTSIDE THE CONSULAR DISTRICT COULD BE NOTIFIED TO THE UKRAINIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY ON THE SAME BASIS AS TRAVEL INSIDE THE DISTRICT. MYSHKOV ALSO REPEATED HIS ASSERTION (REF B) THAT U.S. INSISTENCE ON INCLUSION OF MOLDAVIAN SSR IN KIEV DISTRICT WOULD INDEFINITELY DELAY ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW CONSULATES. WE ASKED HOW ONE COULD EXPLAIN WITHIN THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AND TO INTERESTED AMERICANS SUCH A STRANGELY CONFIGURED DISTRICT. MYSHKOV SAID HE COULD NOT SAY ANYTHING MORE OFFICIALLY, BUT "UNOFFICIALLY" REFERRED TO STRONG VIEWS OF KIEV AUTHORITIES AND FACT THAT THIS WILL BE THE FIRST "WESTERN" CONSULATE IN KIEV. (IN THIS CONTEXT, HE NOTED THAT SOME EE CONGENS EMBRACE MOLDAVIA IN THEIR DISTRICTS

BUT OTHERS DO NOT.)

2. DEPARTMENT CONSIDERS THAT ALTHOUGH MOLDAVIAN SSR IS LOGICAL AND DESIRABLE ELEMENT OF FUTURE CONSULAR DISTRICTS, MAIN U.S. OBJECTIVES WILL BE SERVED IF OUR DISTRICT CONSIST OF UKRAINIAN SSR PROVIDED WE RECEIVE SOVIET ASSURANCES THAT UNOFFICIAL TRAVEL OF CONGEN PERSONNEL (SPECIFICALLY INCLUDING AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE CROP SURVEYS) WILL BE FACILITATED ON A ROUTINE BASIS BY KIEV AUTHORITIES. WE WOULD ALSO NEED ASSURANCES THAT THIS CASE DOES NOT ESTABLISH "ONE REPUBLIC, ONE CONSULATE" AS A PRECEDENT FOR FUTURE CONSULATES GENERAL. DEPARTMENT ENVISAGES INCORPORATING BOTH SUCH ASSURANCES IN AN EXCHANGE OF LETTERS AT THE SAME TIME AS THE EXCHANGE OF NOTES ON DISTRICTS. OUR PROPOSAL ON DISTRICTS WOULD ACCEPT UKRAINIAN SSR FOR OUR DISTRICT BUT WOULD STRIKE MASSACHUSETTS FROM THE DISTRICT OF THE SOVIET CONGEN IN NEW YORK IN ORDER TO RETAIN SOME CONGRUENCE BETWEEN THE TWO DISTRICTS.

3. MOSCOW AND LENINGRAD COMMENTS ON THIS APPROACH WOULD BE APPRECIATED BY MARCH 15. WE WOULD PLAN TO PROPOSE IT TO THE SOVIET EMBASSY ON MARCH 18. INGERSOLL

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